

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 25-26 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the cited prior fails to teach the applicant's claimed invention as follows: a first generation step of generating a context model corresponding to a frame/field flag indicating whether the encoding processing at the macroblock level is field-based or frame-based; a second generation step of generating a context model corresponding to a syntax element for carrying out the frame-based or the field-based encoding processing, wherein the context model corresponding to motion vector information of a current macroblock is generated based on a sum of an absolute value of motion vector information of macroblocks neighboring the current macroblock, and if the current macroblock is subjected to the field-based encoding and a neighboring macroblock is subjected to frame-based encoding, the motion vector information corresponding to the neighboring macroblock is calculated by converting the vertical component of the motion vector information corresponding to the neighboring macroblock to the equivalent for field-based encoding and is applied to the context model corresponding to the motion vector information of the current macroblock; and an encoding step of carrying out the encoding processing using the context model corresponding to the motion vector information of the current macroblock generated in the second generation step.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANNER HOLDER whose telephone number is (571)270-1549. The examiner can normally be reached on M-W, M-W 8 am-3 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Anner Holder/
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/Tung Vo/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621